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ALFALES YOUNG. - - - EDITOR.

BAYARD AND BLOCKADES.

The correspondence between Secretary Bayard and Senor Becarra, the Colombian Minister at Washington, in relation to the decree of the Colombian government declaring the ports of Sabinilla and Santa Marta, in the Carribean sea, and the river port of Barranguillo, closed to foreign commerce, is of much interest, as it clearly indicates that the new Administration is fully alive to all our foreign interests, and is prompt in defining and defending them. There is in Secretary Bayard's letter a tone of firmness and decision that clearly indicates that the stand which the Administration has taker will be maintained, and which must prove to Senor Becarra and his government, that when it desires to establish a blockade in Colombian ports, it must be done with an effective force, and not merely with an authoritative declara-

tion that ports are blockaded. The position of the government in the Congress in that year declared that to make a blockade effective, there must be actually enough vessels of the governconvention of the Baltic powers in 1780, which had defined a blockade to be the year following. Napoleon sought to blockpde the ports of the British Empire throughout the world by a mere declaration of a state of blockade. He did this 21st, 896. It was somewhat of an annoyto English commerce, but was not in any sense a blockade.

The reason for requiring so strict an enforcement of a blockade, is that it is ment of a blockade, is that it is an extreme and harsh war measure, and makes the vessels and goods of neutrals liable to seizure and confiscation for any violation of the blockade, and if there is not force sufficient to make it effectual, although notice of such a state of things may have been given to neutrals by the proper authorities of the government endeave ing to maintain it, yet there is no legal blockade. The object is to cut off all commerce with the blockaded port, thereby preventing supplies of any nature from entering or leaving the nation, and thus crippling the enemy. But to be birdling, there must be actual or constructive notice of the blockade before any vessel can be held responsible for a violation of it. If a vessel has run a blockade, it is only liable to capture until the end of the voyage in which she run it. So, if a blockade is raised before a vessel which has violated it has reached her destination, she is not liable to seizure after the raising of the blockade. The whole subject is one of the most interesting in the Law of Nations, as around it there are clustered the rights of beiligerents and of neutrals, the questions of what is contraband and what is not, and what chrgoes neutral vessels may carry and what ones they may not. It was this question of what neutrals might carry and what not, that gave rise to the controversy with England in 1861 about the Trent affair, the United States claiming that the transportation of Mason and Sliddell with their Confederate dispatches in an English vessel to England, was a violation of the laws in regard to neutrality. The case, after much correspondence between Washington and Downing street, was finally settled, although the question as to the right of a neutral to carry the dispatches of an enemy was not settled, the views of our own jurists, such as Mr. Lawrence and Mr. Dana, not agreeing with the English writers.

It is entertaining to think what would

either at Mery, or at Serakhs, or frontier. at Abiverd. The temper of England then was to prevent such a move at any price, and still Russia did not halt, but played the game which she is again playing today-sending friendly assurances to England and protestations that she has no inand all the while going forward. In 1879, dian troops are ordered to the front.

been deemed a causus belli by England, but in 1884, when the occupation of Merv was an accomplished fact, England did not hold it so serious a thing after all, although there was an exciting debate in the House of Commons on receipt of the news. At that time both parties, Tory and Liberal, thought that the assurances of Russia were to be no longer heeded, but they have been, and to-day comes the news that a military road is being constructed from Penjdeh to Herat. When Herat is reached, which it probably will be soon, it will not be long before we hear that these places are connected with the Caspian sea by railway, the railway already being at Askabad, which is only about two hundred miles from Merv. And when this is done, we shall not have long to wait before the announcement is that Cabul and Candahar are far more important than Candahar. The importance of Cabul lies in the fact that it is not far from the Khyber Pass, and while this pass is not the most convenient through which to enter India, it is now the highroad, as the British frontier headquarters are at Peshawer, which is not a great way from Cabul Many of the British now regret extremely that the permanent occupation of Candahar was given up at the close of the Aighan war, although the Treaty of Gandamak stipulated that Candahar should or call at our store by the Postoffice, on Main Street. damak stipulated that Candahar should matter of the Colombian ports is the be abandoned to the Afghans. Now same which it has always taken, even so there may possibly be some effort made long ago as 1781, when an ordinance of by the British government to obtain a permanent foothold in Afghanistan, by an alliance with that country, both offensive and defensive, with a subsidy ment seeking to blockade, to make en- to the Ameer, for at no time heretofore trance to the port dangerous. In this has the empire of England been Congress followed the example of the so threatened as now, when Russia is constructing military roads leading directly to the Indian frontier. It is sufficient for same as that which Congress adopted the those who are lookers on to watch the course of events without any attempt to solve a question that is agitating all Europe and putting to the test those who stand watch over the destinies of nations. by his famous Berlin Decree of November It is to be hoped that war will not come, although the present outlook is that it must

the occupation of Mery would have

ENLIGHTENMENT AT LAST.

So benighted have the Democrats always been, and still are, and so enlightened are the Republicans and so profound are their principles and saving in their action, and so little being known of these principles, although much sought after, that it is with great joy we are able to say that at last they have been found, and published, and we republish them for the benefit of all, Democrats and Republicans alike. We take them from The

The "principles of the Republican party" are so eagerly inquired for, and there is so much mystery about their exact nature and whereabouts, that the slightest sign of an intention to reveal them excites the liveliest interest all over the country. The appearance of two leaders of the party, Messrs, Evarts and Dawes, at the dinner of the Middlesex Club in Boston on Saturday last, to make speeches, was, therefore, halled with much delighted expectation. Mr. Evarts opened with some account of his Mr. Evarts opened with some account opposed in Boston, and then called attent hoyhood in Beston, and their control the fact that he was speaking on the anniversary of the fight at Lexington, and that whil the English date American Independence from the treaty of 1785, the State of New York date ine treaty of 188, ine State of New York dat it from April 19, 1775, and that thirty years a the people of the Northern States were brong face to face with the question "whether for and right should combine against tyranny as ssion in Kansas." Coming down to that, he intimated that "a rapacious con present, he intimated that a rapacious com-bination" was now in possession of power, and that a certain "experiment," the nature of which he did not describe, was not likely to be repeated unless this combination "surrendered up every office to us." The exact meaning of this we have not, after much study, been able to get at, but we feel satisfied that it contains a "wineighe" of some kind. this we have not, after much study, been able to get at, but we feel satisfied that it contains a "principle" of some kind.

Mr. Evarts further added that he was "resolute as to the duty and the purpose and the expectations of the Republicans of New York as to what they were going to do." He was also much interested in finding out what the Republicans of Massachusetts "were going to do alsout it," and selt no doubt that if "we do not mean to do it in New York, you (the Republicans of Massachusetts "mere going to do alsout it," and selt no doubt that if "we do not mean to do it in New York, you (the Republicans to Massachusetts) mean to do it for us." On reading this we felt sure that the thing here described as "it." which the Republicans both of Massachusetts and New York were going to "do," was the principle or principles of the Republican party, of which we were in search. We accordingly followed Mr. Evarts through the rest of the passage, with every sense on the alert, with the hope of hearing what "it" was, but he refused or neglected to describe "it." The nearest he came to describing it was in affirming that "the country which prospered under the Republican party, would "prevati," and that some "future exhibition, to the admiration of the world," would be "under the same anuspices and the same array of banners and trumpets." If this points clearly to anything, it is to the reappearance of the London and Haraum show next year, under the same management, which we presume nobody seriously doubted.

Mr. Everts next divided the Union into two

asly doubted.

Mr. Evarts next divided the Union into two Ar. Evars sex divided in segments," one containing the region between the Hudson River on one side, Cape Cod and one Island Sound on another, and Canada at the

with the English writers.

It is ontertaining to think what would have been the course of Mr. Blaine in the present case of the blockade of the Colombian ports, had he been Secretary of State, as his correspondence with Earl Granville concerning the Bulwer-Clayton treaty was of such a nature as to warrant that it would have been brilliant at least, although it might have brought ridicule upon us and compelled us to retire from any position we might have taken. But the present energetic action of Secretary Bayard and his decisive stand on the American doctrine of blockades, will furnish the Republicans much to talk about when Mr. Blaine is put in nomination again in \$333, which he probably will be.

THE RUSSIAN ADVANCE.

If Russia is constructing a military road from Penjdeh to Herat, it clearly indicates that Russia not only intends to hold Perjideh permanently, but to take and hold Herat, as Herat is above one hundred miles south of Penjdeh, and o determine which a commission was agreed upon by the governments of Russia and England, but nothing whatever has been done by the frontier heretofore claimed by Russia, and conderments which a commission. That Russia will retain Penjdeh, none will doubt when the course of Russia in regard to Merv is remembered. At the close of the Afghan war in 1879, all England was of one mind with regard to the Russian move to the East and sont, and declared that Russia must not be allowed to establish herself in strength anywhere upon the Afghan war in 1879, all England was of one mind with regard to the Russian move to the East and sont, and declared that Russia must not be allowed to establish herself in strength anywhere upon the Afghan war in 1879, all England was of one mind with regard to the Russian move to the East and Sonth, and declared that Russia must not be allowed to establish herself in strength anywhere upon the Afghan war in 1879, all England was of one mind with regard to the Russian move to the East and Sonth, and declared that Russia must not be allowed to estab questions. To answer some questions successfully one has to be as silly as the man who propounds them. We trust, therefore, that the Prosident will let Mr. Dawes answer them himself. Nobody else is quite equal to it. But ains for the grand old party when it is thus that it speaks, or is spoken for, on parade days! Twenty years ago, who would have thought that it would live on after its brains were gone?—The Nation, April 3rd.

-No further news from Middleton was tention to move in the direction of India, received during the night, More Cana- No. 23 West Temple Street, South.

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